

Introduced by Senator Bates
(Coauthors: Senators Anderson, Block, Fuller, Hall, Hertzberg,
Hill, Huff, Leyva, Liu, Nguyen, Pavley, and Vidak)

May 14, 2015

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 63—Relative to National Stroke Awareness Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 63, as introduced, Bates. National Stroke Awareness Month.

This measure would declare the month of May 2015 as National Stroke Awareness Month in California.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Stroke is the leading cause of serious long-term
2 disability and the fourth leading cause of death in California, killing
3 about 130,000 people nationwide and approximately 13,500
4 citizens of California each year; and
5 WHEREAS, Strokes cost the nation \$34 billion annually,
6 including the cost of health care services, medications, and lost
7 productivity; and
8 WHEREAS, Nearly 80 million Americans have high blood
9 pressure, which is a major controllable risk factor for stroke,
10 including 45 percent of black adults-among the highest prevalence
11 of any population in the world; and
12 WHEREAS, Nearly 60 percent of Americans do not know if
13 they are at risk for a stroke, and one in three Americans cannot
14 name any of the signs or symptoms of a stroke; and
15 WHEREAS, The warning signs and symptoms of stroke include
16 numbness or weakness of the face, arm, or leg, especially on one

1 side of the body; confusion; trouble speaking or difficulty
2 understanding; trouble seeing in one or both eyes; trouble walking;
3 dizziness; loss of balance and coordination; and severe headache
4 with no known cause; and

5 WHEREAS, The American Heart Association urges people to
6 lower their risk of heart disease and stroke by focusing on “Life’s
7 Simple 7” key health factors and behaviors: managing blood
8 pressure, controlling cholesterol, reducing blood sugar, getting
9 active, eating better, losing weight, and stopping smoking; and

10 WHEREAS, New and effective treatments have been developed
11 to treat and minimize the severity and damaging effect of strokes,
12 but much more research is needed; now, therefore, be it

13 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
14 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature declares the month of
15 May 2015 as National Stroke Awareness Month in California; and
16 be it further

17 *Resolved*, That the Legislature urges all Californians to
18 familiarize themselves with the risk factors associated with stroke,
19 to recognize the warning signs and symptoms of stroke, and, at
20 the first signs of a stroke, to dial 9-1-1 immediately in order to
21 begin to reduce the devastating effects of stroke on our population;
22 and be it further

23 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
24 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.